

further intend to issue licenses to allow humanitarian, diplomatic, and journalistic activities to continue.

The declaration of a national emergency made under Executive Order 12808, and expanded in Executive Orders 12810 and 12831, remains in effect and is not affected by the June 9, 1998, order.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, June 10, 1998.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 12:17 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 423. An act to extend the legislative authority of the Board of Regents of Gunston Hall to establish a memorial to honor George Mason.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore.

At 6:21 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3150. An act to amend title 11 of the United States Code, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 102. Concurrent resolution recognizing Disabled American Veterans.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 3798. An act to restore provisions agreed to by the conferees to H.R. 2400, entitled the "Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century," but not included in the conference report to H.R. 2400, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on June 11, 1998, he had presented to the President of the United States, the following enrolled bills:

S. 423. An act to extend the legislative authority for the Board of Regents of Gunston Hall to establish a memorial to honor George Mason.

S. 1150. An act to ensure that federally funded agricultural research, extension, and education address high-priority concerns with national or multistate significance, to reform, extend, and eliminate certain agricultural research programs, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-5334. A communication from the Director of the United States Information Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 1997 through March 31, 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-5335. A communication from the Attorney General, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 1997 through March 31, 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-5336. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 1997 through March 31, 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-5337. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 1997 through March 31, 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-5338. A communication from the Chairman of the Consumer Products Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 1997 through March 31, 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-5339. A communication from the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 1997 through March 31, 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-5340. A communication from the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Reduction In Force Retreat Right" (RIN3206-AG77) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-5341. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding the removal of obsolete regulations on the transfer of marine equipment; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5342. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; San Pedro Bay, CA" (RIN 2115-AA97) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5343. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class E Airspace; Madison, SD" (Docket 98-AGL-17) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5344. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Rush City, MN" (Docket 98-AGL-18) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5345. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Fergus Falls, MN" (Docket 98-AGL-6) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5346. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Colorado Springs, CO" (Docket

98-ANM-06) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5347. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments" (Docket 29241) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5348. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments" (Docket 29242) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5349. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class E Airspace; Rugby, ND" (Docket 98-AGL-13) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5350. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class E Airspace; Traverse City, MI" (Docket 98-AGL-16) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5351. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class E Airspace; Wooster, OH" (Docket 98-AGL-19) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5352. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class E Airspace; Marion, OH" (Docket 98-AGL-20) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5353. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Minot, ND" (Docket 98-AGL-21) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5354. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment to Class D and Class E Airspace; St. Joseph, MO; Extension of Comment Period and Correction" (Docket 98-ACE-6) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5355. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Realignment of Jet Route J-66; TN" (Docket 97-ASO-28) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5356. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class D Airspace; Minot AFB, ND; and Class E Airspace; Minot, ND" (Docket 97-AGL-61) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5357. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding airworthiness directives on certain Eurocopter France helicopter models (Docket 96-SW-22-AD) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5358. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding airworthiness directives on certain Stemme GmbH and Co. Sailplanes (Docket 97-CE-129-AD) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5359. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding airworthiness directives on certain Pilatus Aircraft Ltd. airplanes (Docket 97-CE-09-AD) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5360. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding airworthiness directives on certain SOCATA Groupe Aerospatiale airplanes (Docket 97-CE-76-AD) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5361. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding airworthiness directives on certain Alexander Schleicher Segelflugzeugbau sailplanes (Docket 97-CE-102-AD) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5362. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding airworthiness directives on certain Glaser-Dirks Flugzeugbau GmbH gliders (Docket 98-CE-09-AD) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5363. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding airworthiness directives on certain British Aerospace airplanes (Docket 98-CE-15-AD) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5364. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding groundfish fisheries off Alaska (Docket 971208297-8054-02) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5365. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "South Atlantic Swordfish Fishery; Fishery Reopening" received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5366. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Fisheries; Import Restrictions" (RIN0648-AJ93) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5367. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Swordfish Fishery; Annual Quotas" (RIN0648-AJ63) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5368. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Fisheries Service, Depart-

ment of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Tuna Fisheries; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna General Category" received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5369. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding directed fishing for pollock in Statistical Area 610 in the Gulf of Alaska (Docket 971208297-8054-02) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5370. A communication from the Acting Deputy Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Grant Funds-Materials Science and Engineering; Laboratory-Availability of Funds" (RIN0693-ZA15) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5371. A communication from the Assistant Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding non-indigenous species research and ballast water management (RIN0648-ZA40) received on June 3, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5372. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding Pacific halibut and red king crab bycatch rate standards (Docket 961107312-7021-02) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5373. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians award under Indian Claims Commission Docket 18-E, 58 and 364; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EC-5374. A communication from the Acting Assistant Attorney General (Legislative Affairs), Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the Police Corps for calendar year 1997; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5375. A communication from the Commissioner of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding the filing and processing of permanent resident status applications by refugees and asylees (RIN1115-AD73) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5376. A communication from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding final funding priorities for Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers and Rehabilitation Engineering Research Centers received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-5377. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on civil rights enforcement for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-5378. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the estimated cost of the premarket notification program for food contact substances for fiscal year 1999; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-5379. A communication from the Director of the Regulations Policy and Manage-

ment Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Indirect Food Additives: Adjuncts, Production Aids, and Sanitizers" (Docket 87F-0162) received on June 4, 1998; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-5380. A communication from the Director of the Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding a secondary direct food additive derived from rapeseed oil (Docket 97F-0283) received on June 3, 1998; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

EC-5381. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program; Incentive Programs-Fraud and Abuse" (RIN0938-AH86) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5382. A communication from the United States Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on foreign unfair trade practices for the period June 1996 through January 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5383. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting notice of the continuation of the waiver applicable to the Republic of Belarus; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5384. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule regarding rates for interest on tax overpayments and interest on tax underpayments (Rev. Rul. 98-32) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5385. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Permitted Elimination of Pre-retirement Optional Forms of Benefit" received on June 4, 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5386. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Branch of the Customs Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Recordkeeping Requirements" (RIN1515-AB77) received on June 9, 1998; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5387. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a Presidential Determination regarding sanctions against Pakistan for detonation of a nuclear explosive device; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5388. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a proposed license for the export of major defense services to Turkey (DTC-54-98); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5389. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the report of a Presidential Determination regarding the waiver and certification of statutory provisions regarding the Palestine Liberation Organization; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5390. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, the report of a Presidential Determination regarding the use of funds from the Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5391. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, notifications of military retirements; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5392. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a certification relative to the Department of Defense reduction of acquisition positions; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5393. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report regarding allocation of core logistics activities among Department of defense facilities; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5394. A communication from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting, pursuant to law, notification of an exception to the use of competitive procurement procedures for the acquisition of (Stage II) retrofit kits; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5395. A communication from the Chief of the Programs and Legislation Division, Department of the Air Force, transmitting, the report of a cost comparison to reduce the cost of operating base supply functions at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5396. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report of the Panama Canal Treaty for fiscal year 1997; to the Committee on Armed Services.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Appropriations: Special Report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 1999" (Rept. 105-211).

By Mr. COCHRAN, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2159. An original bill making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-212).

By Mr. BURNS, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2160. An original bill making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 105-213).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. SMITH of Oregon:

S. 2156. A bill to amend the Arms Export Control Act to exempt any credit, credit guarantee or other financial assistance provided by the Department of Agriculture for the purchase or other provision of food or other agricultural commodities from sanctions provided for under the Act; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CLELAND (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 2157. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to increase the authorized funding level for women's business centers; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. ROBERTS (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BURNS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. KERREY, Mr. GORTON, and Mr. KEMPTHORNE):

S. 2158. A bill to amend the Arms Export Control Act to provide that certain sanctions provisions relating to prohibitions on credit, credit guarantees, or other financial assistance not apply with respect to programs of the Department of Agriculture for the purchase or other provision of food or other agricultural commodities; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. COCHRAN:

S. 2159. An original bill making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. BURNS:

S. 2160. An original bill making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. THOMPSON (for himself and Mr. BREAU):

S. 2161. A bill to provide Government-wide accounting of regulatory costs and benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MACK (for himself and Mr. GRAMS):

S. 2162. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to more accurately codify the depreciable life of printed wiring board and printed wiring assembly equipment; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. KYL):

S. 2163. A bill to modify the procedures of the Federal courts in certain matters, to reform prisoner litigation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON:

S. 2164. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to promote rail competition, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 2165. A bill to amend title 31 of the United States Code to improve methods for preventing financial crimes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 2166. A bill to amend the National School Lunch Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to provide children with increased access to food and nutrition assistance, to simplify program operations and improve program management, to extend certain authorities contained in such Acts through fiscal year 2002, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 2167. A bill to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) to increase the efficiency and accountability of Offices of Inspector General within Federal departments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MURKOWSKI:

S.J. Res. 52. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to limiting the terms of Senators and Representatives; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. INOUE:

S.J. Res. 53. A joint resolution to express the sense of the Congress that the President

should award a Presidential Unit Citation to the final crew of the U.S.S. INDIANAPOLIS, which was sunk on July 30, 1945; to the Committee on Armed Services.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE):

S. Res. 247. A resolution to authorize testimony, document production, and representation of Member and employees of the Senate in *United States v. Jack L. Williams, et al*; considered and agreed to.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CLELAND (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 2157. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to increase the authorized funding level for women's business centers; to the Committee on Small Business.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTER AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I am delighted to join the Senator from Georgia, Senator CLELAND, in introducing legislation with him to expand the authorized level of the Small Business Administration's Women's Business Centers. I appreciate the leadership of the Senator from Georgia on this issue.

We must provide and over the last few years have provided strong support to help women business owners meet their greatest potential. I am happy to say this bill does just that. The additional funding that would be authorized in the bill will ensure that the SBA is going to achieve the goal of establishing the Women's Business Center in every single State by the year 1999. It will also be used to expand the existing very successful Women's Business Centers in the currently underserved areas of their States.

Just 10 years ago Congress established a demonstration program to help women-owned businesses gain access to capital and assistance, technical assistance, in business development. This program has proven to be a really remarkable success. It has served nearly 50,000 American women, business owners, through 54 sites in 28 States and the District of Columbia.

Women-owned businesses have made extraordinary gains over the past decade, and everyone in America is sharing the economic advantage that has resulted from their endeavors. Current calculations by the Small Business Administration indicate that women now own one-third of all U.S. firms—more than 8 million businesses. Women-owned businesses employ one out of every five U.S. workers, a total of 18.5 million employees, and more people than the Fortune 500 companies. Each year, women-owned businesses now